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Professor Parsons, with reference to the Massachusetts rule of Partial Payments, as contained in *Dean v. Williams*, 17 Mass. 417, and cited in Vol. II. *p. 636. We have noticed but a few of the many errors which are in this work, and have expressed but few of the criticisms which might be applied to it. There is a possibility of modernizing Parsons, and making it the valuable text book which its author intended it to be. It is therefore with great disappointment that we find an alleged revision, which substantially does not improve the work at all. We seriously question, whether it is any longer a proper text-book from which to teach the modern Law of Contracts. It never was logical, and only in places was it ever clear. It is now neither logical, clear, nor modern, and for both instructor and student while it is exhaustive, it is also exhausting.

Law of Foreign Corporations. A Discussion of the Principles of Private International Law and of Local Statutory Regulations Applicable to Transactions for Foreign Companies, by William L. Murfree, Jr. Central Law Journal Co., St. Louis, 1893.

Mr. Murfree's brief work illustrates the growing tendency to specialize in the law. The subject of the rights of corporations away from home, has been touched upon by Morawetz, Beach, and Spelling, but no thorough discussion of the law has, to our knowledge, ever before been published. The author has developed his subject in a logical manner and has evidently written as text a digest of the cases which he cites to support his statements. This to our mind is the way a text-book should be written. It is more than a compilation of cases; it indicates a great deal of difficult research together with the more difficult distinguishing and harmonizing of the cited cases. Mr. Murfree's book certainly deserves a place in a corporation lawyer's library.

A Treatise on the Law of Quasi-Contracts. By William A. Keener. Baker, Voorhis & Co., New York, 1893.

By preparing this treatise, Professor Keener has rendered a great service to the profession. The work is thoroughly scientific and is distinguished throughout by accuracy of definition and keenness of analysis. A careful perusal of the book clears away whatever misconceptions one may have entertained in regard to the nature of those legal rights which rest neither in contract nor in tort, but in statutes or in general principles of truth and justice. Confusion of ideas is avoided by exactness in the use of legal terminology. He traces the fallacious classification of quasi-

contracts as contracts of record and implied simple contracts to its origin in the law of remedies, while with extraordinary perspicuity he shows their essential difference. His treatment of the several topics constituting this branch of the law, e. g., recovery of money paid under duress, mistake, or compulsion of law, waiver of tort, liability of infants and *non compotes mentis* for purchased necessities, etc., etc., is eminently satisfactory. Without approaching diffuseness, the author is exhaustive. We may commend the book as a masterpiece of legal style and learning.

General Digest of the United States, Annual, Vol. VIII., 1893.
The Lawyers Co-operative Publishing Co., Rochester, N. Y.

This digest contains as usual the decisions of the principal courts in the United States, England and Canada. It is complete in every particular, containing not only the usual features of arrangement, indexing, cross-references, etc., but others peculiar to this series, which add greatly to the usefulness of such a work. The bibliographic notes, containing a short notice of the leading new books and magazine articles, and the table of cases criticised are of obvious utility. The typography and binding are good and the work is not too bulky for convenient use.

The Origin and Scope of the American Doctrine of Constitutional Law. By James Bradley Thayer. Little, Brown & Co., Boston, 1893.

This little pamphlet contains a very vigorous and clear discussion of the jurisdiction of the courts over constitutional questions. To all citizens who desire to elevate the standard of our legislatures this paper is valuable for its suggestiveness.